



State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY DIVISION OF WATER QUALITY

M/035/009

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288 North 1460 West
P.O. Box 144870
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-4870
(801) 538-6146 Voice
(801) 538-6016 Fax
(801) 536-4414 T.D.D.

February 11, 1997

Dennis Kerstiens
Kennecott Barneys Canyon Mining Company
PO Box 311
Bingham Canyon UT 84006-0311

Dear Mr. Kerstiens:

Subject: Waste rock from East Barneys Pit determined as De Minimis, and Solutions Found
Between Liners in new Process Pond, Ground Water Permit No. UGW 270001

We received your company's letter dated January 13, 1997, prepared by Steve Lackey, regarding our request for more information concerning your proposed East Barneys Pit. The information was reviewed in conjunction with the waste rock management plan that was approved August 1, 1994. The waste rock plan is required by the ground water permit (Part II. H. 3). After our review, we believe this operation will have a de minimis actual or potential effect on ground water quality, because your drilling records and sulfur tests indicate there is little or no sulfide material in the pits, and the deposits are in the oxidation zone above the water table. The waste rock from the pit will have more than adequate neutralization capacity. A de minimis determination is granted upon the condition that should sulfide material containing more than 0.5% sulfur be found, Barneys Canyon will ship the sulfide to the smelter or haul the waste rock to the designated Melco Sulfide dump. The proposed pit is now considered as part of the waste rock management plan, and stipulations in the plan must be adhered to.

We also received a letter dated January 13, 1997 from Steve Lackey concerning the fluids found between the liners in your new process pond. The analysis you provided of the fluids suggest the fluids are storm water as you had indicated earlier in a telephone conversation. Although the analytical data was not in the format required by the QA/QC Plan, Steve Lackey indicated in a following telephone conversation that the analytical data was determined in the Kennecott laboratory by the required methods. No holes or tears were found in the liners during an inspection. Therefore, unless new information arises affecting the significance of these solutions, we consider this matter closed.

Sincerely,

Fred C. Pehrson, P.E., Manager
Permits, Compliance & Monitoring Branch

FCP:MC:wfm

cc: DOGM
Salt Lake City/County Health Dept.

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